

# 03-21-2020 Minutes

## McDonald County Commission—Minutes

March 21st, 2020

**Present:**

Bill Lant- Presiding Commissioner

John Bunch - Eastern Commissioner

David Holloway- Western Commissioner

Kimberly Bell - County Clerk

**\*\*EMERGENCY MEETING\*\***

An emergency meeting was requested by Paige Behm, McDonald County Health Department Director and Gregg Sweeten, McDonald County Emergency Management Director to be held at 5:00pm regarding the updated Order by Missouri Governor Mike Parson.

Local public health authorities are being directed to carry out and enforce the provisions of the Order issued by Governor Parson by means of civil proceedings. Provisions of this order are outlined below.

1. In accordance with the guidelines from the President and the centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), every person in the State of Missouri shall avoid social gatherings of more than ten (10) people. For purposes of this Order, "social gatherings" shall mean any planned or spontaneous even or convening that would bring together more than ten (10) people in a single space at the same time.
2. In accordance with guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in the State of Missouri shall avoid eating or drinking at restaurants, bars, or food courts; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed throughout the duration of this Order.
3. In accordance with the guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes, long-term care facilities, retirement homes, or assisted living homes unless to provide critical assistance.
4. In accordance with the guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall remain closed.

This Order does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, including grocery stores, gas stations, parks and banks, so long as necessary precautions are taken and maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including maintaining at least eight feet (8') of distance between all individuals that are not family members. For offices and workplaces that remain open, individuals shall practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this Order will expire.

This Order shall be in effect beginning 12:01 A.M. Monday, March 23, 2020, and shall remain in effect until 12:01 A.M. Monday, April 6, 2020, unless extended by further order of the Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services with said extensions not to exceed the duration of the effective period of Executive Order 20-02 (May 15, 2020).

Paige gave the Commission an update. Health Department will notify all restaurants and food establishments in McDonald County. Nursing homes are already adhering to the Order. Schools have been notified of this Order. The Health Department has PPE supplies and is working to acquire additional supplies. Health Department will work with OCH to have an additional drive thru testing site in McDonald County. 911 dispatchers can now ask if a person is a COVID-19 case or suspect case.

Gregg Sweeten stated he highly recommended the Courthouse go to half-staff, where feasible, to continue minimum Courthouse operations. All employees should work on a weekly rotation, set up and organized by each office holder as seen fit for each office. Commissioner Holloway made a motion to decrease the number of County employees in the Courthouse and Courthouse Annex and all employees should work on a weekly rotation, set up and organized by each office holder as seen fit for each office. Authorized number of employees allowed for each office is as follows:

Recorder- one (1) employee at a time

Assessor- two (2) employees or less at a time

Collector- two (2) employees or less at a time

Prosecuting Attorney- two (2) employees or less at a time

County Clerk- three (3) employees or less at a time

(Continued)